

REMARKS

Claims 1-141 are in the application and have been allowed.

Herein Applicant is correcting an informality noted in claim 58. Namely, in reviewing the claims prior to paying the issue fee, Applicant noted that claim 58 should read:

a receive datapath coupled between the communications medium and the receive memory, wherein the receive datapath ~~memory~~ provides at least some data received over the communications medium to the receive memory;

a transmit datapath coupled between the transmit memory and the communications medium wherein the transmit datapath ~~memory~~ provides at least some data from the transmit memory to the communications medium."

It is noted that this is a typographical-type error and the amendments herein should not change the substantive scope of the claims or require additional examination or searching. As the specification makes clear, in the claims (not just claim 58) the first (or second, etc.) network data station is a circuit block that provides an interface (see, e.g., circuit blocks 50a, 50b, etc. of Fig. 2) between a first (or second, etc.) data station (see, e.g., data source/sinks 48a, 48b 48c, etc. of Fig. 2) and the communication medium (see, e.g., media 46a, 46b, 46c, 46d, etc. of Fig. 2) (the specification making clear that "data station" is being used in the claims in a generic manner). In claim 58, the receive datapath and the transmit datapath are part of the first network data station and are positioned, respectively, between the receive memory and the transmit memory. Thus, the claim amendments herein can properly be seen as a correction/clarification and not a substantive change to the intended scope of the claims.

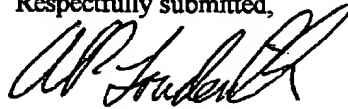
The claims in underlined form set forth above reflect the amendments made herein. Appended to the end of this Amendment is a version of claim 58 that shows in strikethrough and underlined form the amendments made herein to claim 58.

No new matter has been added by this Amendment, and the amendments herein are submitted to the application in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

Applicant's attorney requests an opportunity to discuss this case with the Examiner by way of a telephone or in-person interview in order to address any additional questions, etc., that the Examiner may have.

Please charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0251.

Respectfully submitted,



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SUPPLEMENT TO REMARKS; CLAIM SHOWING AMENDMENTS MADE HEREIN

58. (currently amended) In a data communication network for communicating isochronous and non-isochronous data between data stations over a communications medium including at least first and second network data stations, the first network data station being coupled to one or more first data stations and also coupled to the second network data station, the second network data station being coupled to one or more second data stations, the first network data station comprising:

a receive memory and a transmit memory;

a receive datapath coupled between the communications medium and the receive memory, wherein the receive datapath ~~memory~~ provides at least some data received over the communications medium to the receive memory;

a transmit datapath coupled between the transmit memory and the communications medium wherein the transmit datapath ~~memory~~ provides at least some data from the transmit memory to the communications medium;

a first-in-first-out buffer receiving the at least some data from the transmit memory and holding the data before communicating the data to the second network data station; and

wherein the first-in-first-out buffer is configured to output its contents in response to a signal transmitted by the second network data station.